



THOMAS G. NEWMAN, Editor.



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October comes across the hill—  
Like some light ghost she is so still,  
Though her sweet cheeks are rosy;  
And through the floating thistle down  
Her trailing, brier-tangled gown  
Gleams like a crimson posy.

The goldenrod fades in the sun;  
The spider's gauzy veil is spun  
A thwart the drooping sedges;  
The nuts drop softly from their burrs,  
No bird song the silence stirs,  
A blight is on the hedges.

Mr. Thomas W. Cowan departed for home last Saturday, after visiting Washington, D. C.

Mr. Ivar S. Young gave the BEE JOURNAL a call last week. He is now with Prof. Cook. From there he goes to visit Mr. A. I. Root at Medina, O. He is a thoroughly practical apiarist, and is sent here by the Government (we understand) to gather information that may be made of practical use in Norway. He is genial, and speaks the English language fluently. He is a gentleman and a scholar.

"Is it the Old or Young Bees," asks a correspondent, "which leave the hive at swarming time?" Age has nothing to do with it. Those whose wings are ragged with age, mingle with those which are young and downy. The drones, too, go with the crowd to the new home selected before hand by the scouts.

Extracted Honey is Darker during a drouth, and a correspondent asks us to explain why this is so. We hardly think that the linden or white clover honey is darkened in color by a drouth, but being short, the bees may gather honey from some other bloom, and thus mix it. The red clover heads may be retarded in growth, and the bees may gather from that source, and thus darken the color. Alsike clover honey is of an amber color, and when compared to basswood is very much darker. In many places during the past season the basswood yield was exceedingly short.

"Mella" is the name of a new honey beverage just "invented" in England. The British Bee Journal gives the following concerning it:

The British Honey Company, limited—who in their progress have had many difficulties to overcome, and much uphill work to accomplish—have devoted much thought and attention to this matter; and after a series of experiments have succeeded in producing from British honey and fruits a beverage, which, whilst retaining the flavor of honey in a marked degree, is quite free from the viscous properties noticeable in many of the honey beverages which have been brought before the public. The new beverage is termed "Mella," and, while of a highly effervescent character, is non-intoxicating. The taste of the honey is perfectly distinguishable when drinking it. It is prepared for the market with the aid of the most approved machinery; and, we are informed, it is intended to be retailed at a low price, thus bringing it within the reach of all classes. We advise all our readers to give this beverage a fair trial.

We congratulate the British Honey Company on this success; and we trust that they will continue to be found in the forefront of those who are catering for the public in the various modes which may be adopted for the utilization of honey.

In reference to the question so often asked whether the demand for honey is increasing proportionately to the enlarged supply of ordinary seasons, our British cotemporary replies thus:

During the past few years considerable advance has been made in increasing the number of outlets for the utilization of honey. It is but right that we as bee-keepers should acknowledge and express our indebtedness to various gentlemen connected with the Berks Bee-keepers' Association for the great interest and inventive ingenuity that they have displayed in furthering this object. In this connection we are pleased especially to recognize the services of, and the active part taken by the Rev. V. H. Moyle, of Ashhamstead Vicarage, looking upon him as we do as the principal agent in stimulating those in his vicinity to bestow their attention in this direction. In reply to a communication, Mr. Moyle some time ago informed us that he was engaged in compiling a pamphlet setting forth the various utilities of honey. This pamphlet has not yet reached us, and we presume that it has not been published. Some such pamphlet is a great desideratum; and we consider that no one is more competent than Mr. Moyle to produce it, he having for many years devoted much time and attention to the consideration of this subject.

Messrs. Huntly and Palmer, of Reading, have consumed much honey in their well-known honey-drop biscuits. Messrs. Blatch, of Theale, with their honey beverages; Mr. George, of Reading, with his confectionery; Mr. G. E. Darvil, with his sweetmeats of all kinds, containing a large proportion of *bona fide* honey; Mr. Thomas, with his honey toilet preparations; Messrs. Cross, with their various methods of applying honey in medicinal and pharmaceutical preparations, have done much towards popularizing the use of honey.

Besides these, Messrs. Fry & Sons, of Bristol, have produced very nice honey chocolate tablets and creams; Messrs. Fry's (of Bishop's Waltham), honey beverages, champagnes, syrups, and cordials are well known; and our friend, Mr. W. N. Griffin, of Freshford, Bath, has invented a dubbin in which honey is an ingredient, and which has been highly spoken of as a preservative of leather.

Much of the honey collected in the British Isles is especially adapted for being utilized in various articles of food, beverages, confectionery, sweets, medicines, etc., possessing as it does an exquisite flavor and aroma; and in this respect we may claim that it possesses considerable superiority over foreign honeys.

Then in reference to the use of honey for manufacturing purposes, our cotemporary gives the following, which we would endorse most fully, and emphasize the sen-

tence that "it cannot be brought too prominently before the public," so that it can be applied to manifold mechanical and sanitary purposes:

It is of primary importance that bee-keepers, and all others interested in the promotion of bee-culture, should direct their attention to the increase of such manufactures, as by so doing they would create an increased demand for their own produce. The fact cannot be brought too prominently before the British public that honey is not only of good service in its old form of "bread and honey," but that it be applied to manifold medicinal and sanitary purposes; that it is far superior to its younger rival, sugar; and that the more varied its applications the better for the honey industry generally.

**Peculiarly-Shaped Cells.**—In the Canadian Bee Journal of last week we find an editorial on the building of peculiarly-shaped cells by the bees. It says:

We have now before us about one dozen different specimens of comb that have been cut out. These vary in size from four inches square to half the size of an ordinary comb. In these pieces there are a large number of cells of almost every imaginable shape, some oblong, a few hexagonal, and some V-shaped; some have three sides, the ordinary hexagonal shape, the other three made with two forming a V running off to a sharp point; some are formed somewhat like a V, then others are as perfectly square as the bees could make them, and not a few are triangular; some are five sided, some are nearly round, some heart shaped, in fact we could hardly think of a shape that might not be found in some of the pieces. The square cells are in perfect rows two inches in width, and six or more in length, nearly all perfectly square. Most of these different cells had brood in them, and we have not been able to detect any difference between the bees hatched in these peculiar shaped cells and those hatched in the ordinary ones. It seems that some colonies are more inclined to build peculiar shaped cells than others.

**Honey Quotations** in the market reports of the metropolitan daily papers are stupidly erroneous. Here is what the Chicago Times quoted a few days ago:

Good to choice white clover honey in small boxes, 11 to 15 cents; common to dark colored, or when in large packages, 7 to 10 cents; strained, 5 to 6 cents.

Everybody should know that there has not been a pound of honey sold within three months at the above prices. They understate the market 50 per cent, and are consequently very deceptive and untrustworthy. We call upon the Chicago press to reform! Give correct quotations or none!

**Honey in the Boston Market** is reported by Mr. Henry Alley, who visited the honey dealers there a short time ago, as being excellent in quality. He says that "the apiary of Mr. A. E. Manum, of Bristol, Vt., was well represented by a large lot of fine honey." He then adds:

The prices, also, surprised me as much as the quantity and quality. The second quality is selling at wholesale at 15 cents, and the best comb honey at 22 cents, and is retailing at 25 cents per pound.

**Canada's Honey Crop** is estimated to be an average of only 20 pounds to the colony. Many colonies will need liberal feeding to carry them over the winter in safety.





comb. The Carniolans have the same habit. The remedy is to change the stock, or cut out the drone-comb and supply worker-comb in its place.—G. L. TINKER.

Cut out the combs that are largely drone, and fill the empty frames with worker foundation. The combs which have smaller pieces of drone-comb may be saved in this way: Cut out the drone-comb and fill up with pieces of worker-comb taken from the combs that have been cut out of the frames.—C. C. MILLER.

Supersede the queen, and replace the drone-comb with worker-comb foundation.—THE EDITOR.

## Correspondence.

This mark ⊙ indicates that the apiarist is located near the center of the state named: ⊙ north of the center; ⊙ south; ⊙ east; ⊙ west; and this ⊙ northeast; ⊙ northwest; ⊙ southeast; and ⊙ southwest of the center of the State mentioned.

For the American Bee Journal.

### Securing Apicultural Statistics.

JOHN H. LARRABEE.

The article which my question on page 681 brought out, has greatly interested me. I know that many kinds of statistics were of necessity somewhat incorrect, but that they should be as grossly so as intimated by Col. Wright, was somewhat of a surprise to me. The statistics as to population, and a few other prominent points of the census, appear to be about all there is approaching accuracy in the whole system.

The desirability of obtaining accurate statistics is not to be disputed, but the ways and means of obtaining them do not, from appearances, seem to be known. The census interests all classes. The merchant is interested in the imports and exports, and in the growth of trade here and there, or upon this and that commodity. The contractor and builder is watching the lumber and brick trade. The M. D. wants reliable and immediate reports of births, deaths, and the various diseases, epidemic, constitutional and circumstantial. The farmer needs reliable crop reports; and the bee-keeper wants to know how much honey, how many colonies of bees, etc.

In England reforms come slowly. The English constitution was built up by centuries of experience and growth. The Constitution of the United States was evolved at one grand sweep, yet Gladstone remarked, in effect, the other day, in declining an invitation to be present at the Centennial of the signing of the Constitution, that "he knew of no greater or more perfect stroke of statesmanship brought forth at one time in all modern ages, than this same Constitution." It is thus with the Americans now. Everything is done upon

the impulse of the moment, yet God has so far graciously favored us, and our growth has been substantial.

The census will doubtless in a few years be the envy of foreigners. Bee-keepers must be on hand with a plea for their fair share of recognition. In any other year I should have said that we needed a Producer's Association. Among the first labors of such an association should be the securing, as far as possible, a reliable census of bees and honey. The *how* to bring it all about would come with the effort, for "where there's a will there's a way."

The existing statistics, so meager and so manifestly incorrect, are a fit subject for ridicule. Bee-keepers are an intelligent fraternity, and very nearly accurate reports could be obtained, could all be interrogated. Could printed questions be presented, through secretaries, to all the bee-associations in the United States, and such reports be collected and compiled, a much more valuable record than any existing would thus be obtained.

I hope that the question will be agitated until some system is inaugurated tending to the obtaining of accurate reports of the progress of apiculture in this country.

Larrabee's Point, ⊙ Vt.

[By request of the Commissioner of the Census in 1880, the editor of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL prepared for the Census Reports an article showing the value of the crops of honey and beeswax, and the importance of having correct statistical reports thereof every year. The article was acknowledged, and it was stated that it would be incorporated in the Census Reports—but, alas, it never appeared. Perhaps Col. Wright will do better next time, now that he sees the injustice he has been doing to the public in the past in such matters.]

As to what the proposed Producers' Association could do in the matter, we are not prepared to state. That is yet an *unknown* and *untried* measure.

The great drawback about getting correct reports from secretaries of local societies, is that not one-tenth of the bee-keepers, even in the territory occupied by a local society, ever attend its meetings, or report in any way to it.

This is another question which we may well consign to the North American Bee-Keepers' Society's meeting next November. It is worth while to give it a thorough investigation, and if possible evolve a valuable method of obtaining correct statistics.

Perhaps Dr. Miller, the President, can give us light on the "how" of it. He has had lots of "experience" in trying to get full and correct statistics.—Ed.]

For the American Bee Journal.

### Hives for Observation.

E. D. KEENEY.

MR. EDITOR:—In the editorial columns of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL for Sept. 21, 1887, you mention some Observation Hives which Huber never saw; which you call "uni-comb glass hives." Now, I want to see an engraving and description of such hives in the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL. What do they cost? Where can they be obtained? I think many others will be interested in this matter, and desire the information as much as I do.

Arcade, ⊙ N. Y., Sept. 23, 1887.

[The questions of our correspondent are answered with pleasure, for we want to see Observation Hives more common at Fairs, Expositions, and Shows. In that way we can educate and encourage the people to consume more honey.]

It is our aim to make honey a staple product. To this end we have endeavored to popularize the consumption of honey by the masses, as well as to raise the standard of production, by applying correct principles and progressive art to the management of the apiary.

Public manipulations with bees, and magnificent honey exhibits are the most attractive features of State, County and District Fairs. There are many good reasons for recommending such, but the chief one, perhaps, is that those who produce honey for the market may be induced to present it in the most marketable shape; for the new methods and new ideas of practical management must take the place of the old and undesirable ones.

Bees and honey are already the great attraction at such Fairs as have given prominence to this industry—and this will become more apparent each successive year. Michigan, Nebraska, Missouri, and some other States, having tried small Bee and Honey Shows, and finding the results so satisfactory, they now have them on much larger scales.

When in Great Britain, during the summer of 1879, we found that the most attractive features of the Fairs were the public manipulations with bees, and the very large exhibition of honey of captivating beauty. For exhibiting bees, observation hives were used—those having glass sides, through which the bees may be seen at work—the hives being inside the exhibition building, with a tube covering the entrance, and running

through the side of the building, giving free passage, in and out, for the bees. Sometimes a glass box inclosing each frame, arranged like leaves of a book, with a common entrance to all of them, from the tube running through the side of the building, is made to exhibit bees. This gives an opportunity for thorough examination of the whole colony.

Prof. Cook has an Observation Hive in his study, and, by request, he has sent us a drawing of it, from which we have made the illustration, so that our readers will obtain a good idea from it and the accompanying description given by the Professor:

#### OBSERVING HIVES.

Of course every live bee-keeper will possess and read one or more of the books that treat of bees and their management. These place the whole subject before him, and, if well indexed, enable him to study any particular phase of the subject at will. He will also, if wise, take and read one or more of our excellent periodicals. These keep him versed in the progressive steps in this art, and the various discoveries and improvements can be appropriated as soon as made.

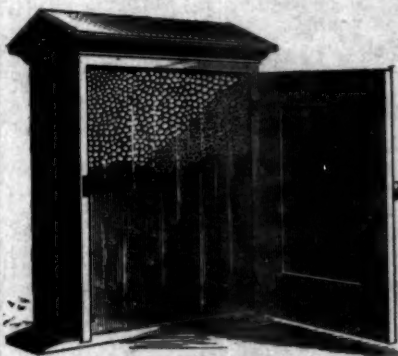
There is still another method to gain knowledge, which though, perhaps, not so full of practical aid as the above, will greatly benefit, even on the practical side of our business; but, more than this, it will enable us to confirm what we learn from the books, and will do more than anything else to exalt our appreciation of the wondrous habits and instincts of the little insects with which we have to do. It will do much to make our life work as full of wonder and admiration as it is of pleasure and profit. I refer to the possession of an "Observing Hive;" so that, with each leisure hour, we may look into the very life habits of our pets. Such observation, in any field of natural history, always excites interest, imparts instruction, and ennobles the observer.

Few experiences in my life have yielded more real pleasure and valuable instruction, than the hours spent in watching the strangely interesting labors of the bees, as studied in my library, by use of the small "observing hive," here illustrated.

I do not think we need any complex arrangement. A simple, uni-frame hive, with glass sides, which may be darkened by doors, is cheap, easily made, and will enable us to watch any operations carried on in the hive. I have even had bees in such a hive prepare to swarm. Of course, such limited quarters will not permit much increase, and so, when the brood commences to hatch out, the bees must be shaken from the frame, and it replaced with a frame of empty comb, or, better still, a frame of comb foundation. We then can watch the bees as they transform the foundation into a sheet of beautiful comb. If the bees are not gathering at the time of

this transfer, we must either feed them, or give them a comb containing some honey. We may now watch, not only the wondrous fashioning of the comb, but the laying of eggs, the packing of pollen, the finding of the larval bees, and the many other wonderful manipulations, to be witnessed in the "Observing Hive."

My hive, which is correctly represented in the engraving, is neatly made of black walnut, and forms, of



*The Uni-Comb Hive.*

itself, quite a pretty ornament in my study; while, with its wondrous contents, it forms an attraction which can hardly be surpassed. It will pay every apiarist to keep such a uni-frame hive, for his own edification, the instruction of his children, and the entertainment of his friends.

At the St. Joseph Exposition last month there were two of these observation hives exhibited by Messrs. F. G. Hopkins, senior and junior, and they were more attractive than any other exhibit. The tubes, running from the entrances through the side of the building (the exhibit being in the second story), allowed the bees to work industriously, and

"Improve each shining hour"

of every day of the exhibition, greatly to the delight and wonderment of the multitude of observers.

There were something like a score of other hives and nuclei containing bees "at work" in the same way, exhibited by Mr. E. T. Abbott, Mr. J. G. Graham, Mr. W. Z. Hutchinson, Mr. Wm. Kimball, and Mr. E. S. Armstrong.

These exhibits are growing in numbers, and we hope to see the day when there are hundreds instead of scores or dozens at every Fair and Exhibition in America.

As to the cost and how to obtain them—the cost is but trifling, unless it is desired to have them ornamental as well as useful. While such an Observing Hive can be made for a single dollar, twenty might be ex-

pended to make it ornamental, and hence more attractive. Any carpenter or cabinet maker could make it—for it is simply a box to hold one frame from an ordinary hive.—[Ed.]

Honey Leaflet.

### Some Reasons for Eating Honey.

ALLEN PRINGLE.

Why people should freely eat honey can be put briefly in one sentence, to-wit: Because honey is wholesome, palatable, and comparatively cheap food. This fact in itself ought to be sufficient to ensure its general use, and no doubt it will when the fact is generally known.

Owing mainly, perhaps, to the fact that honey yields such exquisite pleasure to the human palate it is, for the most part, regarded as a mere luxury, and its valuable qualities as a food, and even a medicine, are generally overlooked. Corn meal porridge is a wholesome and cheap food, but it is not sufficiently palatable to catch many mouths watering for it. There are many excellent articles of diet that are quite neglected, simply because they do not commend themselves to our perverted tastes, everybody, however, admitting their wholesomeness.

But, because honey is so superlatively pleasant to all tastes—both normal and abnormal—the hasty conclusion is forthwith reached that it is merely a luxury to please the palate, having no special value as a regular article of diet. This popular conception is very erroneous, and must be corrected before this rich product of nature can take its proper place on the tables of all classes of people as a common article of diet.

True, occasionally a person is found who cannot eat honey. It disagrees with a few, or, as they put it, "acts almost as poison" to them. But this fact no more proves that honey *per se* is essentially injurious than the fact that potatoes are essentially unwholesome. The fault is not in the honey or potatoes, but in the subject himself. In some peculiarity of constitution, or abnormal condition of the system may always be found the true cause of the difficulty.

The dietetic elements which honey contains are quite indispensable to first-rate health in this and more northerly climates—indeed, to all outside the torrid zone. The carbonaceous, no less than the nitrogenous, elements of food are required by the human system in these zones; and as we go north from the Tropic of Cancer, more imperatively required than the latter. Now, as honey furnishes these indispensable, heat-producing elements in greater purity than almost every other article of human diet, it therefore stands at the very head of the carbonaceous ingesta.

If the animal heat of the system is produced and maintained by the combustion in the blood of the oxygen of the air taken in by the lungs and cer-



tain elements of the food, as the most eminent authorities maintain, then it is absolutely certain that for six or eight months of the year in this climate, there is no more wholesome or necessary food than pure honey. True, in our ordinary dietary we can get the necessary heat-forming materials from other sources, but we also get at the same time from these other sources disease-producing impurities—fat pork, for instance, and other oleaginous substances so common on our tables. The conclusion is, therefore, as plain as it is logical, that during the seasons of autumn, winter, and spring in these latitudes, honey is the very best food of its class which we can get. Let there be less pork, butter, and the dirty, unwholesome syrups used in the families of our land, and more honey, and the certain result will be the greatly improved health of the people. Sickness and the common ailments of life will be greatly diminished. Considering the relative wholesomeness, purity, and nutritive properties, pure extracted honey is much cheaper as a regular article of diet than pork or the average quality of market butter at the same price.

In nature's *materia medica*, honey has also valuable properties as a curative agent. In pulmonary complaints, common colds, sore throats, and that class of diseases, honey has frequently proved most efficacious. Many instances are recorded of remarkable cures by honey in such cases when other medicaments had utterly failed. That honey possesses restorative and remedial properties of an important character is already well known by the bee-keeping denizens of country places, and their neighbors, who frequently call upon them for honey in cases of sore throat, colds, croup, etc.; while the bee-keeper knows well that every druggist in every country town, as well as in the city, lays in a stock every year for medicinal purposes.

#### HONEY BEVERAGE.

We may also lay honey under tribute in the production of one of the most wholesome beverages in existence; to supersede tea and coffee on the family table. We give the formula and process, and advise all to try it:

Take three quarts of good, clean, wheat bran and bake in the oven till it becomes quite brown. Then add one quart of liquid buckwheat honey and stir thoroughly; put it back into the oven to bake still more, stirring it frequently until it gets dry, granulated, and very brown—a little scorching will not hurt it. Draw it the same as coffee, and use with milk and honey, or milk and sugar, to suit the taste.

This makes a perfectly wholesome and palatable drink, and the sooner it takes the place of tea in every family, the sooner the public health will improve. In the writer's family this wholesome and really palatable beverage has been on his table for years with the best results; and were a ton of tea and coffee unloaded at the door gratis, we would say, "no, thank you," so far as drinking either is con-

cerned. The buckwheat honey is preferable to the clover in making this beverage, for the double reason of its brown color and more pungent taste.

Selby, Ont.

For the American Bee Journal.

### The Lesson of Our Misfortunes.

JULIUS TOMLINSON.

A few days since, my daughter and a lady friend made a visit to the charming home of T. F. Bingham. In regard to his honey crop, Mr. Bingham said, "Tell your father that the present season is nearest to nothing of any year since I have kept bees." And this is substantially the report of every bee-keeper that I meet.

Honey is scarce—and higher in price. And the correspondents and editors of our bee-periodicals, in order to still more inflate prices, are advising all who have honey, to hold on to it. This may be good advice this year to those who have honey. There are probably enough well-to-do people, who will, at almost any reasonable price, purchase and consume the entire crop this season. But scarce as the crop is, should it be purchased by a few strong parties and held for exorbitant prices, it may be doubted whether such prices can be obtained. Extravagant prices will restrict consumption. They will also force upon the market every available pound in existence. This is the inexorable law which is ever at work to defeat those who by creating an artificial scarcity of any commodity, endeavor to enrich themselves by extortion; examples are not wanting, which fully illustrate this statement. The collapse, not long since, of the colossal combination to control the entire wheat crop of the world, is a striking example.

One of the lessons of the situation in regard to honey is, that a scarcity of it inflates its price. This is a truism so universally admitted in regard to other natural products, that I would not offend the intelligence of bee-keepers by its statement, but for the loud and persistent call not many months since, of not a few of the bee-keeping fraternity, for a combination of honey producers, which, by some process of legerdemain, not very clearly defined, proposed to inflate the price of honey. These combination advocates are piping very low just now, and I predict that few will advocate it in the coming North American Bee-Keepers' Convention.

The present scarcity of honey will have done some good if it teaches bee-keepers that it is not combinations, but the inexorable law of supply and demand that controls prices of every product, honey included. Excessive prices can never be long maintained. Should the honey crop next season be a full one, prices must, in the nature of things, fall to their normal standard.

What bee-keepers need is bountiful crops, and a good demand at living

prices. The supply is largely beyond our control, but inasmuch as we can never have too much of the good things of this world, it behooves us all to use every appliance which science and experience dictate to secure to the fullest extent the bounties of a beneficent Providence. The demand for honey is almost entirely in our hands. Combination with this end in view would be most desirable. To promote demand is a matter of business, and business methods should be employed. Honey should be advertised.

If the coming convention at Chicago would take action, having for its object the creation of an ample fund to create a "honey bureau," to scatter leaflets on honey broadcast; to advertise it in short, crisp articles in all the daily and weekly newspapers, and perhaps in more elaborate articles for the leading magazines, there can be no doubt but such a demand would be created, as would yearly consume the most bountiful supply. All this is in accordance with natural law, and if our present misfortune should teach us to obey these laws, it may prove a blessing in disguise.

Allegan, 9 Mich.

[We have never advised the creation of a "corner" to control the price of honey. We simply wanted bee-keepers to hold their honey until berries and fruit were "out of the way," and then they would get the full benefit of the rise in values. To ship the honey before that, would break down the growing prices, and leave no one the better off.]

The hint for the convention is a good one, and we hope Mr. Tomlinson will either present his ideas before the assembled body by an address, or in writing, so that they may pass upon the merits of his plan, when the subject is under consideration.—Ed.]

Gleanings.

### Bee-Keeping as a Life Business.

DR. C. C. MILLER.

"It seems a pity he should settle down into nothing but a bee-keeper, when he might be successful in almost any line of business he should undertake." Such expressions I have heard, when, so far as I could see, the only reasons for it were that it was thought the man might make more money at some other business than bee-keeping.

I am aware that too much has been said of the bright side of bee-keeping in the way of urging every one into it, and I have protested against it; for in nine cases out of ten, the person who chooses bee-keeping as his life-business, merely for the money there is in it, will meet with disappointment. But for once I want to take the other side, and say something in the way of urging the choice of this business upon a certain class.

Here is a young man about to settle down in life. His college course of study is perhaps finished (and I would urge upon every young man to get a collegiate education, whether he expects to spend his life in apilary, farm, counting-house, or pulpit); and the question is, whether bee-keeping shall be his vocation. He has aptitude for the business; what little experience he has had in it has been successful; and he would really like to spend his life at it if he thought he could make as much money at it as at merchandise, albeit the confinement of a merchant's life is not to his taste. But the matter of money stands first in consideration, and he decides in favor of mercantile life.

My young friend, you are making a mistake. In the first place, it is by no means certain that you will be one of the successful merchants. But suppose you are, and that you make double or ten times as much money as you could at bee-keeping. You go on at your business, looking forward to the time when you can retire, and enjoy life. There are events that may hinder the realization of your expectations. You may not live long enough. If you do, you will find that your tastes have somewhat changed, and that the life to which you have for years looked forward with bright expectations is mainly a disappointment. On the other hand, if you follow your inclinations, and adopt the pursuit of a bee-keeper, there is no necessity for looking forward to a certain time in the future for your enjoyment of life.

You can take your enjoyment as you go—mixed, it is true, with pain and toil, but still a life of enjoyment. You have one important advantage over the merchant; your out-door life gives you a physical vigor he cannot enjoy. He has poorer food than you, even if he eats from the same dish, for he has not the same hunger to spice it. The mere fact of existence is a pleasure to a perfectly healthy animal, be he man or beast; and the man who eats his food with a thorough relish is the better man for it, physically, mentally, and perhaps morally and spiritually.

#### HIGH VERSUS LOW SALARIES.

There is another view that is worth taking, and it applies to all callings—bee-keeping or what not. Compare two positions in life. A man in Chicago has a salary of \$2,000, and his brother in a country village has one-half as much, \$1,000. Which has the better place? Perhaps the Chicago man; perhaps not.

Throwing aside all other considerations, and taking just a dollar-and-cent point of view, if the country man's annual expenses are \$600, and those of the city man's \$1,700 (and there may be that difference, even when each seems to be living equally well), the result will be that the country man will lay by one-third more annually than the city man, in which case the \$1,000 salary will be better than the \$2,000. Suppose, however, that the annual expense in the city is \$1,500, and \$600 in the country. In

this case, \$500 is annually saved out of the \$2,000, and \$400 out of the \$1,000. Is the salary that clears the \$500 one-fourth better than the salary that clears the \$400? And it is to this particular point I want to call the especial attention of the young.

Nine out of ten of the young will be dazzled by the larger salary; and when to this is added the larger annual saving, the question is definitely settled in their mind. If they think far enough ahead they may find a factor they have omitted from the problem. When the time comes to retire from service—it may never come, and it may be forced upon one before he desires it—when this time comes, the city man will be so fixed in his habits and mode of living, his family in their social circle, that he must continue his same life and same expense of living. Even if he had thought of going back to his former country life, he will now find it impracticable; the rule is, men do not.

Now let our two men be compared after the same number of years of service, say 15 years. In that time the one saving \$500 per annum has \$7,500 ahead; and the other, saving \$400 per annum has \$6,000 ahead. But what is this worth to each of them? The first, spending \$1,500 per year, can live on his \$7,500 just five years; and the second, spending \$600 per year, can live on his \$6,000 just ten years. So you see, when looked at from this point of view, the \$1,000 salary is worth just double as much as the \$2,000. In other words, the \$2,000 man lays by each year enough to support him four months, while the \$1,000 one lays by enough each year to keep him eight months. Some of you young men that are itching to get into places to make money faster, think this over. It may make you a little more content where you are.

Marengo, 8 Ills.

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Sandusky, 3 O., Sept. 23, 1887.

For the American Bee Journal.

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According to the best information that I can get, bees in this State came out of their winter repositories in more than average condition last spring. We had an unusually favorable spring until the fruit bloom appeared, when the weather became so warm that the flowers were almost barren of honey; and as we began to look over our pastures to see how the white clover was coming on, we were filled with apprehension (as this was our main reliance for surplus honey), to find that the severe drouth of 1886 and the spring of 1887, coupled with the hard winter, had ruined the white clover in most locations for the present season; in a few favored spots, where it was not killed outright, it made a feeble growth, and mostly failed to secrete honey for the bees, and this to such a degree, that when the usual swarming time arrived, but few swarms issued.



Some two weeks earlier than usual the basswood bloom appeared in profusion, and in the northeastern part of the State, it yielded considerable honey for about nine days, in which the bees filled their hives, and some of the strongest in reach of the basswood, secured a small surplus; since this they have have rather depleted than augmented their stores, and, I think, have generally failed to keep up the full strength of the colony.

I had some hopes that the autumn flowers—buckwheat, goldenrod, asters, Spanish needle, etc.—would make the season's result more satisfactory, but these hopes have not been realized, and the season of 1887 is practically closed, and failure is rather the rule than the exception with most of us, and our profits are in the experience rather than the "hard cash." The future alone can tell how much we shall realize. No doubt many will consider that their deposit of this kind of capital is already too large, and decline to add to it by continuing to labor at it in the future, and although it is called a fascinating pursuit, for many the charm will be broken; they will retire in disgust to more promising fields, and the army of bee-keepers will be kept up by recruits, who will bring in all the high hopes, energy and enthusiasm that we lose in the retiring ones.

But what are some of the lessons learned that can be of profit in the future? First, to increase our stock from the best workers, and weeding out the queens of the poor working colonies. Second, to do everything to have our colonies strong early in the season; have the hives, sections, foundation, etc., ready so that we can give our bees the closest attention during the honey season; take one or more bee-papers, and read and profit by the standard works on bee-culture; talk with your bee-keeping neighbors, tell them what you know, and learn of them what they know, and perhaps while the world's stock of knowledge will not be greatly increased, it will be much more evenly distributed. Devise means, if possible, so that thieves will not plunder the hives, making detection so probable that even "sneak thieves" will find it easier to earn their honey than to steal it.

Did you ever, on visiting the bee-yard in the morning, find the hives uncovered by the dozen, the sections scattered all over the yard, the brood thrown at random, all the honey cut out and carried away? Now if I knew that Job had this experience when his patience was being tried, and stood the test, I should have a much higher opinion of him than heretofore. I must acknowledge that I would like to put about a pint of lively hybrids next to the hide of the thief. Seriously, this is a great obstacle to success with bees, and will tax our ingenuity to overcome it, and if any one has had any experience or ideas that are likely to profit us in this respect, just let us have it. Horse-stealing has become so dangerous to the stealer that it has been nearly abandoned, and cannot we

make it "too warm" for the thieves of our bee-yards?

Perhaps it may in a measure contribute to our financial success to take more honey than usual from the brood-chamber of the hives, as honey is to sell at a good, round price, compared to what we have been getting for several years; and if we leave enough honey to supply the colonies until we take them out of winter quarters, we can then supply the deficiency with less costly food than honey. I purpose to do this to as great an extent as safety will allow. We have this to encourage us, that notwithstanding there was such a large surplus last season, and the price declined to so low a point, honey was introduced in many homes where it had been a stranger, and a demand has been created that will take tons and tons of honey to supply in the future.

The tendency of the times is to mass the production of honey in the hands of specialists, which I think is best for all parties concerned. But some one may say, had we better rely upon bees and honey for the main chance? The most I can say is, according to your ability and enthusiasm be it unto you; and although you may not become an Astor, a Gould, or a Vanderbilt, you will not likely become a Boss Tweed, a Mackin, or a McGarigle.

The officers elected for the ensuing year, were J. F. Spaulding, President; Mrs. O. F. Jackson, of Sigourney, Vice-President and Corresponding Secretary, and J. W. Moore, of Des Moines, Recording Secretary. The attendance was not as large as in former years. No honey, no money; no money, no enthusiasm; no enthusiasm, no attendance. The exhibit of honey at the Fair was very good, notwithstanding the failure of the honey crop.

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## Feeding Bees for Winter Stores.

O. L. HERSHISER.

All prominent apiarists agree that the best substitute for good honey for bee-food is pure, granulated cane-sugar, and some claim that cane-sugar is superior to good honey, if the latter has much pollen in it. Those who find it necessary to feed their bees need apprehend no serious results if they use the best quality of cane-sugar, while a food of poor quality is almost sure to result disastrously.

To prepare the food, dissolve the sugar in one-third of its weight of water. Where a small quantity is needed, it can be easily made by heating on an ordinary stove, but this method is slow and tedious if a large quantity is needed. In the latter case, if one has access to a jet of steam, the food can be prepared very rapidly by the following method: Weigh out the sugar and water, and place them in a barrel or milk-can.

Get a piece of gas-pipe through which to conduct the steam. It is necessary to have an elbow or joint of hose so the pipe may have a right angle in it. Thrust the pipe to the bottom of the vessel, and turn on the steam. In a very few minutes the sugar will be dissolved, and a syrup of the right consistency formed. By this method a barrel of sugar can be converted into syrup in less than half an hour.

It is necessary that the syrup be as thin as the above formula makes it, so that the bees may store it rapidly. It will be seen that it is a cheap food, the weight of sugar being increased by one-third its weight of water, making a composition worth two-thirds the price of sugar.

The amount of stores sufficient to winter a colony of bees is quite variable in different seasons, and also in different colonies in the same yard. If the conditions of temperature, moisture, food and quiet are just right, a strong colony will winter on 15 pounds, and I have known colonies to winter on much less. I have heretofore aimed to have 30 pounds of good food in each colony, but have been obliged to remove a portion of it in the spring to give the queen more room to lay. I have decided that 25 pounds per colony is plenty, when they are otherwise well cared for.

If the hives in an apiary are nearly uniform in style and weight, when empty, the apiarist can, by comparing the weight of a hive containing sufficient stores, with the other hives, tell how much food each will need, without opening them. If hives are not uniform in weight, or it is not practical to weigh them, the amount of stores can be ascertained by examining each comb. After one has looked over a few colonies he can, by a careful examination, tell within a very small amount how much honey a hive contains. Often by an exchange of combs in different colonies, one of which has more honey than is needed, the other less, both can be given the right amount of stores. In feeding for winter the required amount of food should be given as fast as the bees can store it. If the feeding is prolonged, brood-rearing will begin, and an additional amount of food will be required to feed the young bees reared under the abnormal conditions. Strong colonies will store from 6 to 10 pounds per day, and often more.

The proper season for feeding for winter is during the warm days of autumn, as soon as the honey-flow for the season has ceased. Feeding should be done after sunset, so that it can all be stored during the night. If fed during the day when the bees are flying, robbing is liable to result. I would put especial emphasis on the caution to prevent robbing!

No one but those who have experienced it can form any idea of the perfect bedlam which an apiary presents when the bees get to robbing in earnest. At such times it requires prompt action, and the best skill and thought of the apiarist to prevent losses. If by any means colonies

Here is a young man about to settle down in life. His college course of study is perhaps finished (and I would urge upon every young man to get a collegiate education, whether he expects to spend his life in apilary, farm, counting-house, or pulpit); and the question is, whether bee-keeping shall be his vocation. He has aptitude for the business; what little experience he has had in it has been successful; and he would really like to spend his life at it if he thought he could make as much money at it as at merchandise, albeit the confinement of a merchant's life is not to his taste. But the matter of money stands first in consideration, and he decides in favor of mercantile life.

My young friend, you are making a mistake. In the first place, it is by no means certain that you will be one of the successful merchants. But suppose you are, and that you make double or ten times as much money as you could at bee-keeping. You go on at your business, looking forward to the time when you can retire, and enjoy life. There are events that may hinder the realization of your expectations. You may not live long enough. If you do, you will find that your tastes have somewhat changed, and that the life to which you have for years looked forward with bright expectations is mainly a disappointment. On the other hand, if you follow your inclinations, and adopt the pursuit of a bee-keeper, there is no necessity for looking forward to a certain time in the future for your enjoyment of life.

You can take your enjoyment as you go—mixed, it is true, with pain and toil, but still a life of enjoyment. You have one important advantage over the merchant; your out-door life gives you a physical vigor he cannot enjoy. He has poorer food than you, even if he eats from the same dish, for he has not the same hunger to spice it. The mere fact of existence is a pleasure to a perfectly healthy animal, be he man or beast; and the man who eats his food with a thorough relish is the better man for it, physically, mentally, and perhaps morally and spiritually.

#### HIGH VERSUS LOW SALARIES.

There is another view that is worth taking, and it applies to all callings—bee-keeping or what not. Compare two positions in life. A man in Chicago has a salary of \$2,000, and his brother in a country village has one-half as much, \$1,000. Which has the better place? Perhaps the Chicago man; perhaps not.

Throwing aside all other considerations, and taking just a dollar-and-cent point of view, if the country man's annual expenses are \$600, and those of the city man's \$1,700 (and there may be that difference, even when each seems to be living equally well), the result will be that the country man will lay by one-third more annually than the city man, in which case the \$1,000 salary will be better than the \$2,000. Suppose, however, that the annual expense in the city is \$1,500, and \$600 in the country. In

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should get to robbing, put a good bunch of hay or grass tight against the hive-entrances of all the colonies which seem to be affected. The robbers will become confused in trying to pass through the hay into the hive, and the bees will be able to make a more successful defence of their home. Perhaps a more effectual remedy is to completely cover the affected hives with sheets or clothes of any kind, thus barring either egress or ingress. When the robbers find themselves cornered they are quickly subdued.

A good and cheap method is to remove from the brood-chamber one or two frames containing the least honey and no brood, and replace them with a division-board, which is narrow enough to leave a space of three-eighths of an inch between its lower edge and the bottom of the hive. There should be a space of at least three-eighths of an inch between the division-board and the wall of the hive. This space may be enlarged according to the amount of vacant room. Fold back the quilt or cloth-cover of the brood-chamber tightly upon the division-board, to allow the bees to go up. Now put a heavy piece of duck or enamel cloth, of the same size as the brood-chamber, over the cover to the latter. Make this basin-shaped by placing sticks along the under-edge of each side, and pour the syrup into this basin. I have practiced this method in my own bee-yards for several seasons, and have had the best of results. It has the advantages of being cheap, is adapted to all styles of hives with tight or loose bottom-boards, permits of no loss of heat from the brood-chamber, while the receptacle is easily and quickly filled by the operator, and the capacity can be made of suitable size.

Bees will winter better on six or seven Langstroth frames than on a greater number, as the food is within easy reach of the cluster, and there is less space to keep warm.

For the American Bee Journal.

### Ants in Honey-Rooms, etc.

WILLIAM OLDFIELD.

I have lately been reviewing some recent numbers of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, whose excellence, practical teaching, and current information, in all respects, upon matters relating to the apia, the world over, and especially relating to the whole of this country, have induced me to become one of its constant readers.

#### GETTING RID OF ANTS.

I think that I can furnish a fairly perfect remedy for preventing the invasion of any species of ants into honey-rooms, or, in fact, into any other store-room. It is a fact that ants of all species have the utmost aversion to, and are repelled by the odor of turpentine. I have never found an instance where ants would cross a narrow width of turpentine, and a piece of rag or paper saturated

in turpentine, and bound around the legs of any stand, or table, will frustrate every attempt of ants or other predatory insects to reach the honey-stores, or whatever other naturally enticing food-products may be placed thereon. In a pantry or store-room, sheets of coarse brown-paper previously steeped in spirits of turpentine, and laid upon the shelves where honey or any other product liable to encroachment and injury, that is not of a nature, however, to imbibe the turpentine odor, will speedily cause a cessation of attack.

#### RE-NAMING HONEY.

I dare say that already more than a sufficient number of suggestions have been made regarding the somewhat vexed question of a new technical term for pure honey, mechanically expressed from the comb; that in rendition of exact description and meaning shall define more clearly and less awkwardly to the public, and in market quotations, what it is solely intended to convey. I have felt so much interested in the discussion that I will venture a few remarks.

In the first place, I have no doubt that to call honey in the comb, "comb honey," and extracted honey, or that which is pure from any source, or means of extraction, simply "honey," which is the editor's own choice, I believe, would be the most perfect, and the simplest appellation of these twin forms of the same product, but from the fact that the general public have learned to become but too familiar with adulterated substitutes under that seductive name. A specific term for extracted honey, that shall imply the same warrantable meaning to the people in the general markets, which is apparent in the mind of the apiarist in using the old term, and which implies to him, "honey, pure beyond a doubt," and yet may be more tangibly inferred in its nomenclature than is carried in the word "extracted," would still seem to be called for, and desirable in no small degree; and though difficult to devise a word that shall be not only euphonious, but shall directly imply purity of product, and carry with it to all concerned, the idea of its coming direct from the comb, free from all extraneous matter, and in itself possess the elements of popularity as a word, and afford no barrier to adoption and usage, I nevertheless hope the discussion may not be finally dropped until such a one may be originated, as may challenge fairly every objection, and disarm chiefly the criticism of all who are not opposed to change on the ground of objection to that alone.

I will then state my present ideas on the subject, and will begin by observing that the word "extracted" would directly, it seems to me, infer the source and process of the freed honey, such as it is intended to describe; but the word is perhaps too awkward to adopt. "Discharged" honey, or "ejected" honey may perhaps have been proposed before, and may neither of them be generic enough to achieve popular adoption, or supersede the use of the word

"extracted" in clearness of meaning, which, however faulty, implies the use of a machine whose direct product cannot be other than pure.

Why not, then, to meet the ever recurrent difficulty, coin a word which I see no reason to object to, if it meets the requirements? If this be granted, I am in favor of "comb-extracted" ("excombated" or "excomated"; "excombacted" or "excomacted"), or, again, "comb-ejected" honey. One of these compounds, formed from the Latin verbs *agere*, to drive or force, with *actum* as its pluperfect tense; and of *egere*, to expell or cast out—which with the word "comb" as a prefix or incumbent part, seems to me to fluently furnish the needed term. These, I think, are better than "melliduent" honey, or "mellacted" honey, two other words that I have thought of.

Suwannee, 3 Fla.

For the American Bee Journal.

### Market Reports of Honey.

EUGENE SECOR.

I have heretofore been in favor of the market quotations in our bee-periodicals; and when the storm of indignation gathered about the heads of commission men last winter, I felt inclined to avert it, thinking, or wanting to think, that they were doing the very best that they could do under the circumstances, to sell our product for all it would bring.

But on looking over the quotations of honey recently, I am forced to one of three conclusions: First, honey must be more plentiful in the United States than we have been led to believe; or, secondly, that too many of our producers must be ignorant of the true state of affairs, and are rushing the new crop on the market before it recovers from last year's depression; or, thirdly, that the large dealers in the cities are trying to keep prices down until they shall have stocked up.

Now, as a honey-producer myself, and with some facilities for observation by travel, and a reader of nearly all the bee-papers, I know that this year's honey crop in America will not be one-half as great as it was last. Many good judges place it much lower. Taking the State of Iowa as a whole, I doubt if there is one-fourth as much. And from all I can learn, there appears to be very little new honey on the market as yet, or, in fact, any honey.

I have recently visited some of our large Western cities, and find the market bare. Therefore, I conclude that the old-fogy bee-keepers are not demoralizing the market this year. Indeed, when we think of it, we might know that would be the case; for in such years as this they do not have any to sell. Now what can be said to avoid the conclusion—that the city jobbers are "bearing" the market in order to buy?

Let me quote from the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL market report, on page



589, Sept. 14, as to price of honey in some of the leading cities. I will only notice the quotations for white honey in one-pound sections: Chicago, 18 cents; Detroit, 17 to 18 cents; Cleveland, 17 cents; Boston, 20 to 22 cents—good for Boston! New York, 16 to 18 cents; Milwaukee, 17 to 18 cents; Kansas City, 16 to 18 cts.; St. Louis, 12 cents, and Cincinnati, 15 cents.

If "the old crop is all sold out," "no white clover in market," "offerings small of all kinds," "short crop indicated," and "demand large," prices ought to be a little better than in most of the quotations. I believe, as a matter of fact, they are better. I think some of the best commission men are among those who advertise the least. They let their sales and returns speak for them: I have in mind one house who have sold our dairy butter for top creamery prices, and above quotations right along. I sent them a trial shipment of honey a few days ago, and instructed them to hold for 20 cents. It had barely time to reach the city when I received a telegram saying, "Honey sold—20 cents—send more quick." These men told me that they sold several carloads last year for bee-keepers who would have none to sell this year.

In conclusion I will add, don't sell honey at less than Boston prices. Forest City, 3 Iowa.

[Yes; Mr. Secor is right—the markets are bare of comb honey, and the buyers abundant and anxious. Those who have honey to sell should write for prices before shipping, or else hold it for a definite figure, as Mr. Secor did. Do not sell a pound of white honey in one-pound sections for less than 20 cents.—ED.]

### Local Convention Directory.

1887. Time and place of Meeting.

- Oct. 18.—Kentucky State, at Falmouth, Ky.  
J. T. Connelley, Sec., Napoleon, Ky.  
Oct. 26, 27.—Pan-Handle, at Wheeling, W. Va.  
W. L. Kinney, Sec., Blaine, O.  
Nov. 16-18.—North American, at Chicago, Ills.  
W. Z. Hutchinson, Sec., Rogersville, Mich.  
Dec. 7-9.—Michigan State, at East Saginaw, Mich.  
H. D. Cutting, Sec., Clinton, Mich.  
1888.  
Jan. 20.—Haldimand, at Cayuga, Ontario.  
E. C. Campbell, Sec., Cayuga, Ont.

☞ In order to have this table complete, Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of time and place of future meetings.—ED.

### SELECTIONS FROM OUR LETTER BOX

**Bee and Honey Shows.**—H. D. Cutting, Clinton, Mich., on Sept. 25, 1887, writes:

I have been attending our Michigan State Fair, and came home last evening. We have just closed the largest and best exhibit of bees, honey and supplies ever held in Michigan. The

different exhibits were large and extra good. The building was full to overflowing, there being twelve different exhibitors. This department is becoming one of the attractions of our State Fair. How I wish the bee-keepers in other States would work up this matter of honey exhibitions. It would be a great help in working off the surplus, and prevent overcrowded markets.

**Bees did Well.**—C. W. Conner, Ashton, Iowa, on Sept. 23, 1887, says:

We have had a very dry season here in the northwest corner of Iowa, but I think that my bees have done well, when I see so many reports in the BEE JOURNAL that are so much worse. I began last spring with 8 colonies, and increased them to 25 colonies, but lost 4 by being robbed, as they were weak. I have now 21 colonies, and have taken about 300 pounds of honey. I think there will be 200 or 300 pounds more in partly-filled cases.

**Partridge-Pea.**—A. E. Atkinson, Steele City, Neb., on Sept. 21, 1887, says:

I send you flowers and leaf from a stalk to be named. Bees work on it all day, and it remains in flower about two months.

[It is *Cassia chamaecrista*, commonly called "partridge-pea," and furnishes nectar abundantly. It usually blooms earlier than this, but has been retarded by the extreme drouth this year.—ED.]

**Poor Season for Bees.**—John P. Wylie, Prairie Centre, Ills., on Sept. 23, 1887, writes:

This has been a very poor season for bees in this locality. There has been hardly enough honey for the bees to live on. They have gathered some honey the past week, but I think they will not get enough to winter on, so I will have to feed. Out of 44 colonies of bees I had only 4 first swarms, and 2 second swarms.

**Good Honey-Flow from Goldenrod.**—R. Downs, Naugatuck, Conn., on Sept. 21, 1887, writes:

I examined the most of my hives this afternoon, and took off about 500 pounds of pretty good comb honey from 20 hives. My bees have collected about 25 pounds of surplus honey per colony, full count, with an increase of one-third in number of colonies. All of my colonies except 2 or 3 are in pretty good condition for winter, every hive being full of bees, with eggs and good patches of brood in all stages. There is a good flow of honey from goldenrod, which is very plentiful here, and the bees are improving every pleasant hour; they come in so loaded that they can hardly crawl into the hive. I have 24 colonies now.

**Two-Thirds of a Crop.**—John H. Larrabee, Larrabee's Point, Vt., on Sept. 20, 1887, says:

The crop here has been about two-thirds. I have about 2,000 pounds, but some of it is not very plump looking. Bees are in good condition for winter, as honey-dew, which last winter destroyed so many bees, has had no chance this year on account of the wet weather. I consider the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL the most conservative and correct of bee-papers.

**Boring Beetles.**—Jas. Jardine, Ashland, Nebr., on Sept. 19, 1887, says:

I send a bug that I found on the goldenrod with the bees, gathering honey. What is it? I fed it some honey, and it seems to like it well.

[It is one of our most beautiful boring beetles. It is *Clytus speciosus*. The beautiful large black beetle with yellow lines across its back lays its eggs on maple trees in June. The grubs from these are white, cylindrical, footless, and tunnel the trees through and through for three years. It then pupates in the dust, and soon comes out the beautiful beetle. All beetles of this family—*Cerambycidae*—or longicorns, are long and slim, with very long antennae. They are graceful and handsome. The beetles feed on pollen, and like others related to it, are often found feeding on goldenrod.—A. J. Cook.]

**One-Fifth of a Crop, etc.**—J. W. Eckman, Richmond, Tex., on Sept. 26, 1887, writes:

Bees in some parts of our State have done tolerably well. Mine have gathered about one-fifth as much as I expected, as this should have been the year for a large crop, as it has been every alternate year ever since I have been keeping bees. They are gathering now from goldenrod, and if the weather is favorable for the next month, I will get several thousand pounds yet. Please "give us a rest" in regard to the new names suggested for extracted honey. Honey is honey, and there is nothing in a name. All we want is to have plenty of it, and sale for it, and at good prices.

**Preparing Bees for Winter.**—Evan R. Styer, Morgantown, Pa., on Sept. 23, 1887, says:

I have received only 30 pounds of comb honey this season. I am feeding my bees now for winter, and will give them plenty of stores and warm quarters, and will winter them out-doors, with a tight roof over them, open to the south, east, west and north, with the eaves closed up tight. I will put the hives within 2 inches of each other, and pack out chaff between them, and good cushions on them inside, but only seven frames.

**Sowing Motherwort Seed, etc.**—B. F. Barb, Joetta, Ills., on Sept. 25, 1887, writes:

I bought 2 colonies of Italian bees last spring, and have had 1 swarm from the 2 colonies. I traded for 2 black colonies, which I have had to feed for two months to keep them from starving. My young Italian colony stored enough honey to keep them; the one that did not swarm gathered about 20 pounds of surplus honey. It has been very dry here this summer, but it has rained all day today. I have gathered a lot of motherwort seed this fall, and would like to know when it should be sowed.

[Sow motherwort seed in the spring in beds or drills, and transplant; or sow broadcast where it is to remain permanently. Any barren or waste places may be profitably utilized by it.—Ed.]

**The Common Black Bees.**—John Boerstler, Vashon, Wash. Ter., on Sept. 16, 1887, writes:

I send you a sample of some bees that I have. They are the best honey-gatherers that I have ever seen. They are larger than the black bees. Please give their name in the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL.

[These are only the common black bees, so far as I can see.—A. J. COOK.]

**Misfortunes Multiplied.**—Rev. A. McKnight, Texarkana, Ark., on Sept. 24, 1887, writes:

I have had a sad loss by fire; have lost all of my buildings (seven in all), with the greater part of surplus stuff; and just on the heels of that, I lost all of my hogs by pneumonia, or something else, and then we had the dreadful drouth, so that we are likely to lose most of our bees. On Aug. 10 I had 76 good, average colonies, but they are going rapidly, and I am put to my wits' ends in getting buildings ready for winter, so that I cannot afford to bother with the bees. There are certain districts in this part of the South that bees did reasonably well, but the loss is destined to be very heavy. I had no insurance on my property. I had been building and refitting, and wanted to get all complete before I had it insured. I send special regards to the BEE JOURNAL and its able and efficient editor.

[Was it not too risky, not to insure in time?—Ed.]

### Convention Notices.

The Pan-Handle Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its next meeting in the E. of P. Hall, No. 1138 Main St., Wheeling, W. Va., on Oct. 26 and 27, 1887. All bee-keepers are cordially invited.  
W. L. KINSEY, Sec.

The Kentucky State Bee-Keepers' Society meets in Falmouth, Pendleton Co., Ky., on Oct. 18, 1887. This is expected to be a very interesting meeting, and a large attendance is expected.  
J. T. CONNLEY, Sec.



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## Special Notices.

**To Correspondents.**—It would save us much trouble, if all would be particular to give their P. O. address and name, when writing to this office. We have several letters some inclosing money) that have no name; many others having no Post-Office, County or State. Also, if you live near one post-office and get your mail at another, be sure to give the address we have on our list.

As there is another firm in Chicago by the name of "Newman & Son," we wish our correspondents would write "American Bee Journal" on the envelope when writing to this office. Several letters of ours have already gone to the other firm (a commission house), causing vexatious delay and trouble.

**We will Present Webster's Dictionary** (pocket edition), and send it by mail, postpaid, for two subscribers with \$3. It is always useful to have a dictionary at hand to decide as to the spelling of words, and to determine their meaning.

**Money Orders** can now be obtained at the Post Offices at reduced rates. Five dollars and under costs now only 5 cents. As these are absolutely safe, it will pay to get them instead of the Postal Notes which are payable to any one who presents them, and are in no way safe.

**Red Labels** for one-pound pails of honey, size 3x4½ inches.—We have now gotten up a lot of these Labels, and can supply them at the following prices: 100 for \$1.00; 250 for \$1.50; 500 for \$2.00; 1,000 for \$3.00; all with name and address of apiarist printed on them—by mail, postpaid.

**When Renewing** your subscription please try to get your neighbor who keeps bees to join with you in taking the BEE JOURNAL. It is now so cheap that no one can afford to do without it. We will present a **Binder** for the BEE JOURNAL to any one sending us three subscriptions—with \$3.00—direct to this office. It will pay any one to devote a few hours, to get subscribers.

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**Sweet Clover**, (*Melilotus alba*), furnishes the most reliable crop of honey from July until frost, and at the same time it furnishes the most delicious honey, light in color, and thick in body. It may be sown in waste places, fence corners, or on the roadside. Sow two years running, on the same land, and the honey crop will be without intermission. Money invested in Sweet Clover Seed will prove a good investment. The Seed may be obtained at this office at the following prices: \$6.00 per bushel (60 lbs.); \$1.75 per peck, or 20 cents per pound.

**Simmins' Non-Swarming System.**—We have received another shipment of these books, and have made such favorable terms, that we will now club them with the BEE JOURNAL for one year, both postpaid, for \$1.25. We can supply all orders by return mail. The subscription to the BEE JOURNAL can be for next year, this year, or may begin anew at any time.

**Enameled Cloth** for covering frames, price per yard, 45 inches wide, 20 cents; if a whole piece of 12 yards is taken, \$2.25; 10 pieces, \$20.00; if ordered by mail, send 15 cents per yard extra for postage.

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**Yucca Brushes** are employed for removing bees from the combs. They are a soft, vegetable fiber, and do not irritate the bees. We can supply them at 5 cents each, or 50 cents a dozen; if sent by mail, add 1 cent each for postage.



## Honey and Beeswax Market.

## CHICAGO.

HONEY.—We quote: White clover 1-lb. sections 16@19c; 2-lbs. 12c; dark 1-lb. 15@16c, and 2-lb. 15c. Receipts are light and prices tending higher. Sept. 23. S. T. FISH & CO., 159 S. Water St.

## CHICAGO.

HONEY.—We quote: White comb 1-lb. sections brings 17@20c, according to its appearance. Very little call for dark or buckwheat comb honey. Extracted, 7@10c. BEE SWAX.—22@23c. R. A. BURNETT, 181 South Water St. Oct. 1.

## DETROIT.

HONEY.—Best white comb brings 16@18c. BEE SWAX.—23c. M. H. HUNT, Bell Branch, Mich. Sept. 20.

## CLEVELAND.

HONEY.—Best white 1-lb. sold to-day at 17c; 2-lb. 14@15c; dark, 10@12c. White extracted, 8c. BEE SWAX.—25c. A. C. KENDEL, 115 Ontario St. Aug. 25.

## BOSTON.

HONEY.—New crop, 1-lb. sections, 18@20c; 2-lb. sections, 17@18c. Extracted, 6@8c. BEE SWAX.—25 cts. per lb. Sept. 16. BLAKE & HIPLEY, 57 Chatham Street.

## SAN FRANCISCO.

HONEY.—We quote: Extracted, white, 6@7c; light amber, 6@8c, and dark, 5@6c. White comb, 15@17c; amber, 13@15c. Arrivals small and market very firm, holders being indifferent. BEE SWAX.—21@22c. Demand better. Sept. 26. SCHACHT & LEMCKE, 123-124 Davis St.

## SAN FRANCISCO.

HONEY.—We quote: White comb, 12@13c; extra white comb, 14 to 15c; dark, 7 to 10c. White extracted, 5@6c; light amber, 4@5c; amber and candied, 4@4½c. Receipts light; poor crop. BEE SWAX.—21@23c. O. B. SMITH & CO., 423 Front St. July 25.

## MILWAUKEE.

HONEY.—Choice 1-lb., 17@18c; 2-lb., 15@16c. White extracted in kegs and barrels, 7@8c, and in tin cans, 8c; dark in kegs and barrels, 6@6½c, and in tin cans, 6½@7c. Demand good; supply limited. BEE SWAX.—25c. A. V. BISHOP, 142 W. Water St. Aug. 26.

## NEW YORK.

HONEY.—We quote: Fancy white in 1-lb. sections, 17@19c; the same in 2-lb., 15@16c; buckwheat 1-lb., 12@14c; 2-lb., 10@12c. Off grades 16@20c. per lb. less. White extracted, 8@9c; buckwheat, 5@6c; Southern, per gallon, 60@70 cts. Market seems to be unsettled. BEE SWAX.—22@23c. McCaul & Hildreth Bros., Sept. 20. 29 & 30 W. Broadway, near Duane St.

## KANSAS CITY.

HONEY.—We quote new crop: Choice white 2-lb. sections, 16@17c; dark 2-lb., 12@14c; choice white 1-lb., 15@16c; dark 1-lb., 14@15c. White extracted, 8@10c; dark, 5@7c. Demand good, but light supply. BEE SWAX.—21 to 22c. Sep. 21. HAMBLIN & BEARSS, 514 Walnut St.

## KANSAS CITY.

HONEY.—We quote: White 1-lb., 16@18c; dark, 15@16c; white 2-lb., 15@17c; dark, 14@15c; California—white 1-lb., 15@17c; 2-lb., 14@15c; dark 1-lb., 14@15c; 2-lb., 14c. Calif. white extracted, 7@7½c; dark, 6@6½c. No white clover in market. BEE SWAX.—No. 1, 30@32c; No. 2, 18@18c. Aug. 24. CLEMONS, CLOON & CO., cor 4th & Walnut

## ST. LOUIS.

HONEY.—Choice comb, 13@14c; latter price for choice white clover in good condition. Strained, in barrels, 4@4½c. Extra fancy, of bright color and in No. 1 packages, ½-cent advance on above. Extracted, in tins, 5@5½c; in cans, 6½ to 7c. Short crop indicates further advance in prices. BEE SWAX.—2½c, for prime.

Sept. 22. D. G. TUTT & CO., Commercial St.

## CINCINNATI.

HONEY.—We quote extracted at 5½@7c. per lb. Demand is good for clover honey in square glass jars from the jobbing trade. No new comb honey is in this market, but we would think that choice white would bring 18@20c. in a jobbing way. BEE SWAX.—Demand good—2½@3c. per lb. for good to choice yellow, on arrival. Sep. 20. O. F. MUTH & SON, Freeman & Central A.

## NEW YORK.

HONEY.—We quote: Fancy white 1-lb. sections, paper boxes, 17@18c; fancy 1-lb., glassed or unglazed, 17@18c; fancy 2-pounds, glassed, 14@15c. Lower grades 16@20c. per lb. less. Buckwheat 1-lb., paper boxes, 11@12c; same glassed or unglazed, 10@11c; 2-lb. glassed, 9@10c. Extracted, white, 7@8c; dark, 5@6c. Demand very good. Sep. 21. F. G. STROHMEYER & CO., 122 Water St.

## PHILADELPHIA.

HONEY.—Fancy white 1-lb., 18@20c; fair 1-lb., 16@18c. Demand for extracted in jars and bottles is opening early and well. This market to a great extent is governed by New York prices. BEE SWAX.—24@25c. Sept. 20. ARTHUR TODD, 2122 N. Front St.

Don't do it!—Notwithstanding our many cautions, some persons still persist in sending silver in letters. In nine cases out of ten it will break the envelope and be either lost or stolen. Cases come to light nearly every day, showing that silver sent in letters stops somewhere on the way. It is an invitation to the thief—a regular temptation! If you wish to safely send money, get a Post-Office Money Order, Express Order, or Bank Draft on Chicago or New York. When money is sent in either of the above-named ways, it is at our risk. In any other manner, it is at the risk of the sender.

We are sometimes asked who our authorized agents are. Every subscriber is such an agent; we have no others, and we greatly desire that each one would at least send in the name of one new subscriber with his own renewal for 1888. The next few weeks is the time to do this. We hope every subscriber will do his or her best to double our list of subscribers.

We Supply Chapman Honey-Plant seed at the following prices: One-half ounce, 50 cents; 1 ounce, \$1; 2 ounces, \$1.50; 4 ounces, \$2; ½ pound, \$3; 1 pound, \$5. One pound of seed is sufficient for half an acre, if properly thinned out and re-set.

We have a large quantity of CHOICE WHITE EXTRACTED HONEY, in kegs holding from 200 lbs. to 225 lbs. each, which we will deliver on board the cars at 10 cents per lb. Orders solicited.

We pay 20 cents per pound, delivered here, for good Yellow Beeswax. To avoid mistakes, the shipper's name should always be on each package.

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